Phila^{a} Nov 4. 1861

Wm Lloyd Garrison
Boston

My esteemed friend

131

I imagine you once more at your good home & trust in excellent health & refreshed by your late visit in our neighbourhood. I hoped to have seen more of you - indeed I indulged a very strong hope that you would find time for a peep, at least, into my own little home, where a hearty welcome awaited you, as well as your Son, who I shall always be most happy to meet & entertain. Did you receive my telegram at West Chester on Friday the 25th ult?

I had expected the pleasure of attending the Convention, but business & home matters prevented. Feeling deeply the importance of vindicating the rights of freedom to our fellow man, by such means as will equal the virtue & significance of our cause, I telegraphed you as follows:-

Wm Lloyd Garrison
Horticultural Hall, West Chester Pa.

Regret being absent. May the pure Spirit of conscientious & unremitted

resistance to Slavery, by moral forces alone, prevail in your councils.

I sent it between 11 & 12 am, & it should have been received - One reason why I ask is, it has occured to me that the officers of the line, might, be so opposed to the Convention & to the Spirit of anti-war, that they purposely delayed its transmission or delivery - If so, it is quite proper to investigate the matter - There was time enough, the line was in good working order, the direction clear, & the message prepaid.

I have been much gratified to learn that you interposed a disclaimer to the war Spirit whenever it arose in any kind of force & significance - We cannot be too careful how we court popularity for our cause - If we veer towards the Side of the Sword, we wound & wrong the fair proportions of our glorious & immaculate virtue - We cannot Sanctify a moral cause by immoral means - We cannot achieve a permanent victory, by agencies demoralizing in themselves - We cannot even hope for the culmination of our life long desires, & the fulfillment of our Lords most earnest prayers, when we adopt such measures, as the world calls expedient & such unchristian logic as the drift of the age.

Yes let us rise above war - Our cause & our

aspirations point heaven-ward.

There is very much I would like to say on the great questions at issue, but time does not seem to permit & then again, so much is passing, one can scarcely grapple with it all & do himself or his position justice.

I was amused last week, when I called upon the Editor of the Press, to ascertain the truth of a report published therein, relative to the suffering of female contrabands in Fortress Monroe, who we wish to relieve if needy; I saw the heading of a new weekly to be published for the times. To be called - Forney's War Press & while criticising the rock (which is top heavy) upon which the Eagle stands - the war ships &c in the back ground, I was offered the position of writer of Love Tales. Nice, would not that be? to pander to the depraved taste of the age for love romances - introducing the purity of love, the tenderness of woman, the noblenes of patriotism, &c with the spirit of revenge, the grossness & wickness of man, the littleness of politics &c. & then thundering through it with Cannons, & sprinkling it all over with Blood - Ah how the money jingles in Mr Forney's dreams - I wonder how soon the war will cease, while such people go on making money out of it. I wonder indeed if they who are making fortunes out of it,

and I know many such, do not really hope it will continue - Their actions justify such conclusions -

The Mercantile Library of which I am a Director, propose establishing Agencies in the cities & towns surrounding our city, and I am informed the plan has been tried, perhaps adopted, in your city - We suppose it new in this country, being aware of its successful working in England, Will you consider it too much trouble to give me the information & if adopted somewhat of the management of it? How are the agents paid? Are Books more frequently lost? Is it really remunerative to the Library? And would you recommend it?

The fact is the present Board is more liberal & progressive than the former & while we wish to enlighten those who have not equal advantages of libraries, do not want to go so on a losing scale.

With many wishes for your health & my best regards to your happy household

I am Sincerely Your friend

Alfred D. Love